

Serial No. 10/708,384  
Louis L. Hsu et al.

**In the Drawings**

Please delete sheets 1, 2 and 3 and insert instead attached Replacement Sheets 1, 2 and 3, respectively.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 7 and 18 are amended and new claims 31-35 are presented herein.

Support for the amendments to the claims and new claims 31-34 is provided, *inter alia*, at paragraphs [0039] through [0043] of the specification with reference to FIGS. 7, 8A and 8B.

Support for new claim 35 is provided in FIG. 10A and accompanying description thereof at paragraph [0048] of the Specification. Claim 10 is cancelled herein, eliminating the reason for the objection thereto in the Office Action. Replacement Sheets are submitted herein for drawings sheets 1 through 3 including FIGS. 1 through 3B now labeled "Prior Art."

In the Office Action, all claims as previously pending were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §§102(b) or 103 as being anticipated by IEEE Standard for Boundary-Scan Std. 1149.6-2003 ("IEEE") or obvious over IEEE in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,597,224 to Lin et al. ("Lin"). For the reasons set forth below, applicants respectfully submit that the claims as presently amended are fully distinguished from IEEE and the combination of IEEE and Lin.

Neither IEEE nor the combination of IEEE with Lin teaches a system as recited in claim 1 and for detecting a fault in a transmission link in which a comparator is operable to detect the crossing of the reference level by an input signal arriving from a transmission link, and the comparator has a degree of hysteresis selectable in response to a signal input to the comparator. This concept is not taught by either reference or the combination thereof. Independent claim 18 is amended to include a similar recitation. In addition, neither of these cited references or combination thereof teaches the features of the invention as further recited in claims 31-34. Finally, neither of the cited references or

Serial No. 10/708,384  
Louis L. Hsu et al.


the combination thereof teaches the features of the invention as further recited in claim 35, in which a system for detecting a fault in a transmission link includes a multiplexer for selecting between a DC mode threshold and an AC mode threshold, the multiplexer having substantial resistance and being operable together with a shunt capacitor to low-pass filter an input signal arriving from the transmission link to produce the AC mode threshold.

In view of the present amendments and remarks, it is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance. If, for any reason, the examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is requested that he telephone the undersigned at the number indicated below to discuss any issues that remain.

If any fees are required in connection with filing this amendment, other than the fees already authorized by the attached Transmittal, and Petition for Extension of Time, authorization is given to debit the Deposit Account No. 09-0458 of the Assignee International Business Machines Corporation. If there is an overpayment, please credit the same account.

Respectfully submitted,  
**Louis L. Hsu et al.**

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Daryl K. Neff, Attorney  
Registration No. 38,253  
Telephone: (973) 316-2612